

# Alexandria, Louisiana to the Gulf of Mexico



- **Study Status:**

FCSA scheduled for  
execution May 2003

Feasibility Study  
scheduled to begin  
Jun 2003

- **Study Cost:** \$6.1M

- **Study Issues:**

None



## Project Fact Sheet

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District, CEMVN-PM-M  
P.O. Box 60267  
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Date: March 12, 2003

### Alexandria, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico Feasibility Study

**STUDY AUTHORITY:** This study was authorized by a resolution of the Committee of Transportation and Infrastructure of the U. S. House of Representatives, adopted July 23, 1997.

**STUDY SPONSOR:** The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development is the sponsor for the overall feasibility study. Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of Rapides Parish is the sponsor for the first phase of the study, that is addressing flooding problems in the vicinity of Alexandria.

**STUDY AREA:** The study area is the drainage basin for West Atchafalaya Basin Floodway Levee (WABPL) intercepted drainage system. It has an area of about 1,700 square miles extending through nine parishes from Alexandria, Louisiana, to the Gulf of Mexico.

**STUDY PURPOSE:** The primary purpose of the study is to address flooding problems in the area drained by the intercepted drainage system of the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee, between Alexandria, Louisiana, and the Gulf of Mexico. The study authority also includes other study purposes, such as irrigation water supply.

**PROBLEMS/INVESTIGATIONS:** The WABPL and the South Bank of the Red River Levee prevent flooding from the Red River Backwater Area and the Atchafalaya Basin Floodways. The flows intercepted by these levees are diverted to the WABPL intercepted drainage system, which is also a feature of the MR&T Project. Flooding is a major problem throughout the study area and particularly, from Alexandria to the latitude of U.S. Highway 190.

**STATUS/STUDY COST:** The reconnaissance report and project study plan were approved in August 1999. One economically feasible plan was developed to reduce flood damages in the Alexandria area. The plan provides for the flood control improvements in the Chatlin Lake Canal and diversion of flood flows to the Red River. Due to limited non-Federal funds, the study will be conducted in phases. The first phase will address flooding problems in the Alexandria, Louisiana area. Gravity Drainage District No. 1 of Rapides Parish is the sponsor for the first phase. A feasibility study cost-sharing agreement for the interim study in May 2003. Based on a preliminary estimate, the first phase of the study would cost about \$3.8 million, take about 3 years to complete, and be cost shared on a 50-50 basis. FY 2003 funds will be used to initiate the first phase of the study, including data collection, surveys, structure inventory, and engineering modeling work. The FY 2004 funds of \$435,000 will be used to continue the study.